



Office of

# Sustainability NEWSLETTER

Spring 2015

## WATER



### Water Supply Shortage

On November 20th, the Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners placed Long Beach in a Stage 1 Water Supply Shortage.

- Watering days have been restricted to Monday and Thursday only
  - Filling residential swimming pools with potable water is prohibited
- You can help the city in identifying and reducing water waste through the Long Beach Water Department's "Report a Water Waster" app. It is available for Android and Apple devices.

## UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

### Art Exhibitions at the University Art Museum at CSULB

January 27 to April 12

1250 Bellflower Blvd. Long Beach 90840

<http://www.csulb.edu/org/uam/> or 562-985-5761



### Green Prize Festival

April 25 from 11 am to 7 pm

Cesar E. Chavez Park 401 Golden Ave.

Long Beach, 90802 <http://www.greenprizefestival.com/>

### Earth Day Festival

April 25 and 26 from 9 am to 5 pm

Aquarium of the Pacific: 100 Aquarium Way Long Beach, 90802

<http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/> or 562-590-3100

### Eldorado Nature Center Classes and Events

May 14 from 10 am to 2 pm- Audubon Bird Festival

June 25, 10-12pm or 1-3pm- Annual Butterfly Count

### Classes on Saturdays 2pm to 4pm

April 2: The Cuttings Garden - Native plants for cut flowers

May 7: Radiant Reds - Native red and pink flowers

June 4: Tracy's Insect Garden - Attracting insects to your garden

July 2: Buzzing of Bees - Native bees and how to attract them

Call 562-570-1745 to register



## FARMERS MARKETS



### Saturday

9 am to 1pm

Admiral Kidd Park

### Sunday

9 am to 2 pm

Alamitos Bay Marina

8:30 am to 3 pm

5000 E. Spring St.

### Tuesday

5 pm to 8 pm

Bixby Park

### Wednesday

3 pm to 8 pm

Marine Stadium

3 pm to sunset

Atlantic and Artesia

### Thursday

3 pm to 6 pm

Atlantic and E. 46th St

### Friday

10 am to 4 pm

Pacific and Cedar



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The Office of Sustainability delivers policy and programs that integrate efforts related to buildings and neighborhoods, urban nature, transportation, water, energy, waste reduction and eco products and services. For these areas, the Office of Sustainability has the primary responsibility within the City of Long Beach for setting the agenda and goals, and works with City Departments to jointly implement projects and programs to accomplish these goals.

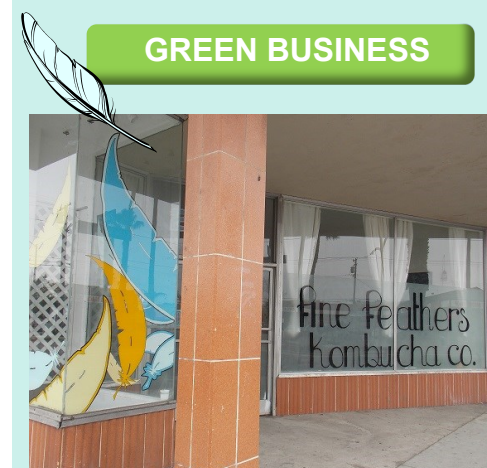
## MEET THE COMMISSIONERS

Desiree Gutierrez is actively involved with Long Beach Fresh, Coalition for Healthy North Long Beach, and LA Food Policy Council. As a self employer with an education in sustainability and public policy, Ms. Gutierrez assists clients in the public media sector and non-profit organizations. Through her desire to support sustainability, food access, and environmental health, she is committed to purchasing fresh, organic, environmentally conscious foods, cleaning supplies, and beauty products whenever possible. Her main ambition is to help Long Beach adopt a green waste pick-up and composting program.



Morgan Wheeler wanted to get involved since sustainable living and environmentalism are priorities in his life. With a background in marketing and political science, Mr. Wheeler runs a business that helps agencies go paperless and reduce waste through smart software solutions. At home, he utilizes gray water, solar energy, rainwater harvesting, native plants, composting, and urban agriculture as part of his sustainable lifestyle. Mr. Wheeler aspires to see gardening, sustainable agriculture, and environmentalism being taught in Long Beach classrooms as a basic core subject.

## GREEN BUSINESS



Fine Feathers Kombucha Co. is the latest addition to Long Beach's growing network of recognized green businesses. As Long Beach's only company that makes and distributes kombucha, a popular fermented tea known for both its exquisite taste and health benefits, Fine Feathers decreases its carbon footprint by purchasing a majority of its supplies and ingredients through small local businesses. The company also delivers its organic beverage to retailers by bicycle, and gives discounts to customers who walk or bike-in to its brick and mortar storefront located at 2296 Long Beach Boulevard.

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For more information visit us at [www.sustainableLB.com](http://www.sustainableLB.com)

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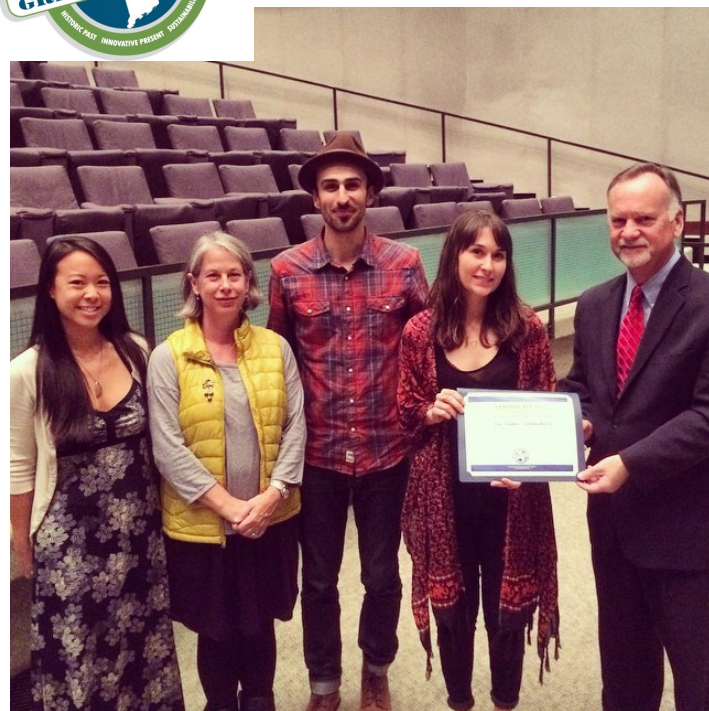
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## GREEN BUSINESS



Further, the company emphasizes energy efficiency through using energy-saving light bulbs and production equipment. All in all, Fine Feathers is a prime example of how businesses in Long Beach can contribute to environmentally sustainable development.

In February, Fine Feathers, along with 17 other locally recognized green businesses, received an award from the Mayor's office at a Long Beach City Council meeting. Each business will be acknowledged for their strides in making Long Beach a more environmentally sustainable place to live and do business in.

More information about Fine Feathers Kombucha Co. can be found at [finefeatherskombucha.com](http://finefeatherskombucha.com).

## CIVIC CENTER EDIBLE GARDEN

### 2015 Garden Classes Schedule



Learn key components for growing a successful container garden.

Workshops are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Civic Center Edible Garden (333 W. Ocean Blvd.) from 12pm -1pm.

**January 21** - Vermiculture for Beginners: Composting with earthworms

**February 18** - Seed saving: How to collect and store seeds

**March 18** - Soil Health: What is healthy soil and how to amend

**April 15** - Summer Planting Prep: All about summer crops

**May 20** - Vegetable Harvesting and Storage

**June 17** - Composting 101: Turn your vegetable scraps into soil amendment

*Free giveaways on a first come, first served basis!*

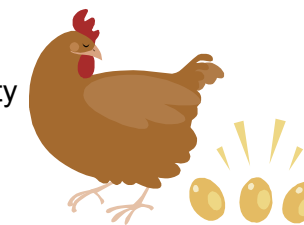
For more information or to RSVP please call (562)-570-5927 or email us at [civiccenterediblegarden@gmail.com](mailto:civiccenterediblegarden@gmail.com)



## POLICY NEWS

The Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones (UAIZ) bill was signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown in September 2013. It was made effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. This bill allows private property parcels, 0.3 – 3 acres in size, to come into a contract allowing agricultural practices on the property for no less than 5 years. This includes floral and edible plants as well as animal husbandry, per city urban agricultural ordinances. In doing so, the property tax would be adjusted to reflect the value of the property as irrigated land, reducing the amount of taxes paid by the owner.

So far, San Francisco County and City have adopted the first UAIZ within their boundaries. For other cities to adopt the UAIZ's, the County Board of Supervisors must adopt the UAIZ's before any City can approve private property parcels to be used for urban agriculture. Los Angeles County is currently in the process of determining the feasibility of implementing UAIZ's in LA County



and is expected to hear recommendations for implementation as soon as mid-February.

## COOL CITIES CHALLENGE UPDATE



### Winning Long Beach Teams at the Sustainable City Commission Meeting

The City of Long Beach came in fourth place for the Cool California City Challenge, just behind Riverside, Claremont, and Rancho Cucamonga! We raised \$6,784.00 for local sustainability projects. Thank you to all Long Beach teams and participants for making this possible!

The funds were divided up and granted to the top Long Beach teams. Maple Village Waldorf School came in first place, and was awarded \$3,000. Long Beach Heritage came in second place and received \$2,000. Historical Society of Long Beach came in third place and was granted \$1,000.



For more information visit us at [www.sustainableLB.com](http://www.sustainableLB.com)